और (ख) 8वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंतिम वर्ष अर्थात् 1996-97 में नई परियोजनाओं से लगभग 11.6 मिलियन टन उत्पादन होने की आशय है ।

(ग) और (घ) वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान लगभग 79 मिलियन टन पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की मांग होने का अनुमान है ।

(ङ) इस समय पेट्रोल का आयात नहीं किया जाता है । डीजल, मिट्टी के तेल तथा एल पी जी के आयात का निर्धारण मांग और घरेलू उत्पादन की स्थिति को देखते हुए वर्ष-दर-वर्ष किया जाता है ।

**Southern Gas Grid**

2826. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the setting up of a Southern gas grid; the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that the projected expansion of TBJ pipeline would adversely affect the availability of natural gas for the Southern gas grid; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The concept of laying a gas pipeline to the Southern States has been approved in principle.

(b) and (c) The gas that would be supplied along such a pipeline would be over and above the requirements of the HBJ pipeline.

**Import of Natural Gas from Iran**

2827. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government propose to import natural gas from Iran via a sub-sea/overland pipeline to meet our domestic demands;

(b) if so, what are the prompting factors for taking such a decision fraught with political and security risks; and

(c) whether the Government contemplate to abandon working on lopaided priorities and concentrate on our own natural gas reserves in Bombay High harnessed for domestic consumption through a grid connecting South?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (b) A proposal for the import of natural gas through a pipeline from the Middle East is at a conceptual stage.

(c) Efforts are being made to optimise the production of oil and gas from Bombay High.

**Commissioning of HBJ Pipeline**

2828. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the HBJ pipeline commissioned;

(b) what was the capacity of this pipeline at the time of commissioning;

(c) what has been the total expenditure incurred on commissioning the pipeline; and

(d) what has been the capacity utilisation of the pipeline year-wise since it was commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The HBJ pipeline was commissioned in phases between August 1987 and March 1989.

(b) 18.2 MMSCMD.